



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
PACIFIC OCEAN DIVISION, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
FORT SHAFTER, HAWAII 96858-5440



CEPOD-SO (385)

19 October 2001

COMMANDER'S POLICY MEMORANDUM #1

SUBJECT: Safety and Occupational Health

1. References:

- a. AR 385-10, The Army Safety Program.
- b. EO 12196, Occupational Safety and Health Programs for Federal Employees.

2. Policy:

a. Safety is the responsibility of every employee within the Division. Investing in people, our most valuable resource, is the most important element of sound leadership. A key part of that investment results from the work we do to create and maintain a safe and healthy working environment for all our employees. As Safety Officer, I am committed to the philosophy that all accidents are preventable. Unsafe acts will not be tolerated, unsafe conditions will be corrected. I hold commanders and directors responsible for carrying out our Safety Program.

b. We achieve an excellent safety program through awareness. Awareness is supported by supervisors and managers through training, for the tasks undertaken to complete a project safely. I hold supervisors and managers responsible for implementing safety training.

c. All projects require special attention to detail to protect our employees. We will continue to provide and use personal protective equipment to accomplish the mission and reduce unsafe acts or conditions. The Activity Hazard Analysis (AHA) has a proven record for preventing accidents both for in-house and contract work. They call attention to potential hazards before performing activities. Develop, accept and review/update AHAs for changing conditions as needed. Ensure we have tasks well planned, and employees have the knowledge, skills, equipment and abilities to safely perform all tasks prior to commencement. Supervisors have the responsibility to take immediate action to correct deficiencies in accordance with all pertinent rules and regulations. I expect compliance with safety and health rules to protect our most valuable asset -- our employees. Each employee is accountable for performing their job in a safe manner.

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d. Safety Committee meetings are a requirement to every successfully managed safety and occupational health program. Conduct them on a quarterly basis and include a cross-section of all staff elements.

e. A strong safety and occupational health program reduces injuries and illnesses, improves our working environment , reduces our cost of doing business, reduces tort liabilities and protects our employees and customers. Safety will take precedence over expediency or short cuts. Integrate accident prevention measures into all of our daily activities.

f. Recognition of safety accomplishments is a part of true risk management and supports the culture aspects of the Strategic Vision. Celebrate, emphasize and document our safety success stories. Learn from failures to reduce future mishaps and lost productivity.

g. The Corps of Engineers has one of the best safety and occupational health programs in the United States. Our Division has done extremely well in accident prevention and safety management. To make safety and health a part of the way we do business, we must establish a safety conscious culture and continuously promote and reward safe work practices. I expect commanders, directors, managers, supervisors and employees to apply this policy to continue to maintain our record of excellence. We are all accountable for our Safety performance.


RONALD L. JOHNSON
Brigadier General, U. S. Army
Commanding

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